

A night-time photograph of the Tower Bridge in London. The bridge's two massive stone towers are illuminated with warm white lights, and the suspension cables are lit with a blue glow. The two bascules (bridge decks) are raised, revealing the intricate steel lattice structure underneath, which is also illuminated with blue lights. The bridge spans the River Thames, and the city lights of London are visible in the background under a deep blue twilight sky.

STUDENT GUIDE TO THE UK

STUDY ABROAD REFERENCE · 2026/27 INTAKE

ABOUT THE UK

- The UK is made up of **four nations** — England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland — with **London** as the capital.
- Home to around **68 million people** and some of the **world's oldest, top-ranked universities**.
- Famous for the **one-year master's** — faster and often cheaper overall.
- **English** is the language of instruction throughout.
- The **Pound Sterling (£)** is the official currency.
- Some of the most popular student cities:

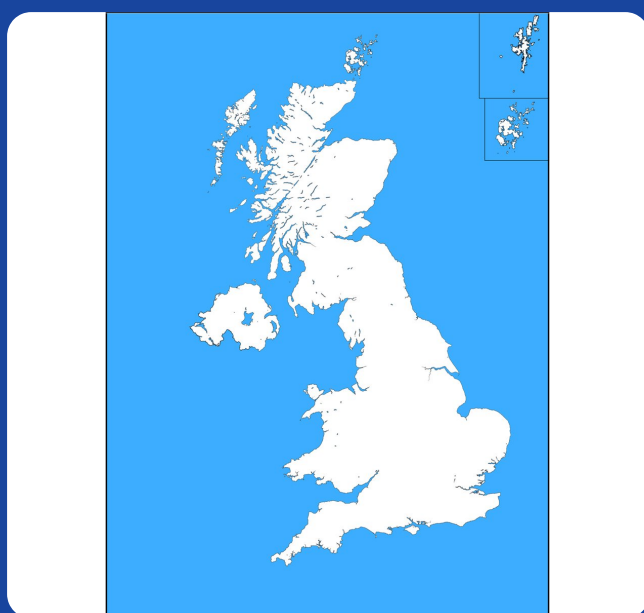


INDIA TO THE UK

CURRENCY

Pound Sterling (£) · 1 GBP ≈ ₹115 (indicative)

Delhi	≈ 9h 00m	UK
Mumbai	≈ 9h 45m	UK
Bengaluru	≈ 11h 00m	UK
Chennai	≈ 11h 15m	UK
Hyderabad	≈ 10h 30m	UK



FACTS

- Capital: **London**
- Flight distance: ~6,700 km
- Time zone: **GMT (UTC+0)**
- Tuition: **£15,000–35,000 / yr**
- Maintenance: **£10,224–13,347**
- Main intakes: **Sep · Jan**

Maintenance funds must be held for 28 consecutive days. Figures indicative — verify per intake.

WHY STUDY IN THE UK?



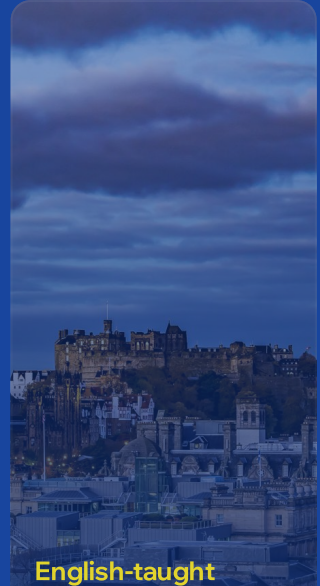
One-year master's
— faster to graduate
and start work.



World-ranked
universities with
global reputation.



Graduate Route
gives post-study
work rights.



English-taught
throughout, with
strong student
support.

The UK combines **globally respected degrees** with a **clear post-study work pathway**.

TYPES OF INSTITUTIONS

- The UK has around **160+ universities** and higher-education providers.
- They broadly fall into three groups:



RUSSELL GROUP

24 research-intensive, globally ranked universities.



MODERN UNIVERSITIES

Career-focused, with strong industry and placement links.



SPECIALIST COLLEGES

Arts, business, music and design institutions.



Campuses across **historic cities** and **modern innovation hubs**.

TOP UNIVERSITIES

- The UK hosts several of the **world's highest-ranked** universities.
- Admission is **merit-based** and competitive.

University of Oxford

OXFORD

One of the world's oldest and top-ranked universities.

University of Cambridge

CAMBRIDGE

Renowned across sciences, humanities and research.

Imperial College London

LONDON

Science, engineering, medicine and business.

University College London

LONDON · UCL

Broad research strength across all disciplines.

University of Edinburgh

EDINBURGH

Leading Scottish university with global standing.

University of Manchester

MANCHESTER

Large, research-intensive Russell Group university.

Indicative selection — confirm each programme's entry requirements and intake before applying.

POPULAR FIELDS OF STUDY

- The UK is strong across fields that lead to **high-demand global careers**.



BUSINESS & FINANCE

Global finance hub with top business schools.



COMPUTER SCIENCE & AI

Data science, AI and software engineering.



LAW

A leading destination for law and legal studies.



MEDICINE & HEALTH

Medicine, nursing and public health.



ENGINEERING

Mechanical, civil and aerospace engineering.



MEDIA & CREATIVE ARTS

Film, media, design and the creative industries.

TUITION & COSTS

- A **one-year master's** often makes the UK competitive overall despite higher tuition.

Undergraduate tuition
per year

£15,000–30,000

Postgraduate taught
per year

£16,000–35,000

Maintenance (London)
9 months

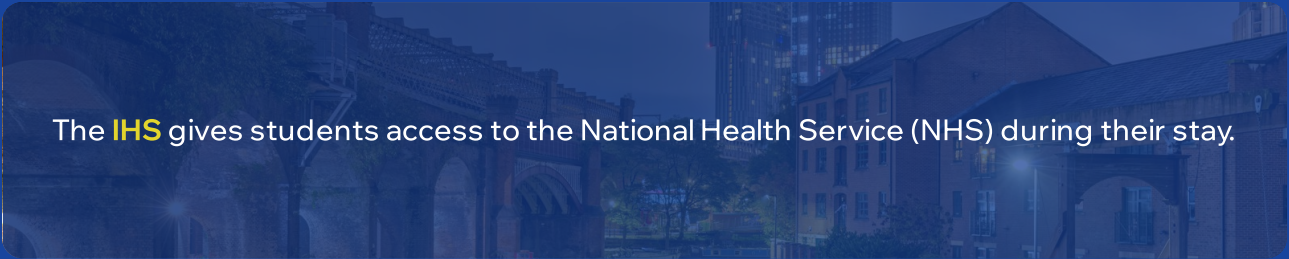
£13,347

Maintenance (outside London)
9 months

£10,224

Immigration Health Surcharge
per year

£776



The **IHS** gives students access to the National Health Service (NHS) during their stay.

COST OF LIVING

- Students typically need around **£1,100–1,500 per month**; London is the costliest.

Accommodation halls or shared flat	£600–1,000
Food & groceries	£200–300
Transport student travel cards	£60–120
Mobile & internet	£25–40
Study materials & leisure	£150–250
Estimated monthly total	~£1,300

Figures indicative for 2026 — costs are highest in London and lower in regional cities.

SCHOLARSHIPS & FUNDING

- Prestigious government and university scholarships support international students.

Chevening Scholarships

UK GOVERNMENT

Fully-funded master's awards, popular with Indian students.

Commonwealth Scholarships

GOVERNMENT

For students from Commonwealth countries, including India.

GREAT Scholarships

BRITISH COUNCIL

Country-specific awards, including several for India.

University Scholarships

INSTITUTIONAL

Merit and country-specific awards from individual universities.

Eligibility, deadlines and amounts change each cycle — confirm on the official scholarship pages.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

BACHELOR'S

- **12 years** of schooling with a strong Class 12 record.
- **IELTS 6.0–6.5** (UKVI) or equivalent SELT.
- Apply through **UCAS** for undergraduate courses.
- Some courses may consider a foundation year.

MASTER'S

- A recognised **bachelor's degree** in a relevant field.
- **IELTS 6.5** (typically 6.0 in each band).
- Apply **directly** to universities.
- Statement of purpose and references required.

INTAKES

- **September** — main intake · apply from the previous autumn
- **January** — second intake at many universities
- Some universities also offer a **May** intake.

STUDENT VISA & FUNDS

1

GET YOUR CAS

Receive a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies from your university.

2

PROOF OF FUNDS

Hold tuition plus maintenance for 28 consecutive days.

3

PAY THE IHS

Pay the Immigration Health Surcharge for NHS access.

4

APPLY ONLINE

Complete the Student visa application and pay the fee.

5

BIOMETRICS

Attend a VFS appointment for biometrics and documents.

6

DECISION & TRAVEL

Receive your visa, then plan your arrival for the term start.

WORK & POST-STUDY

- Students may work up to **20 hours a week** during term time and full-time in holidays.

Graduate Route

POST-STUDY WORK

Currently 2 years; from January 2027 it reduces to 18 months for bachelor's and taught master's graduates (PhD 3 years).

Skilled Worker Visa

LONGER TERM

Switch to a Skilled Worker visa with a qualifying job offer.

Global Recognition

CAREER VALUE

A UK degree is recognised and respected worldwide.

In-Demand Sectors

GROWTH AREAS

Finance, technology, healthcare and engineering.

HOW TO APPLY

1

SHORTLIST

Choose universities and programmes matching your profile and intake.

2

PREPARE DOCUMENTS

Transcripts, IELTS, statement of purpose, references and CV.

3

APPLY

Submit via UCAS (undergraduate) or directly (postgraduate).

4

OFFER & CAS

Accept your offer and receive your CAS from the university.

5

VISA

Apply for your Student visa with proof of funds and IHS.

6

DEPARTURE

Arrange accommodation and prepare for your move to the UK.



Your UK study journey — one step at a time.